

THE
JEWISH
GAILY

FORWARD

APRIL 1982

שער זהב

NISAN/IYAR 5742

A HOME OF OUR OWN!

The building campaign continues: discussions among lawyers, the Congregation, and the Redevelopment Agency have been occurring during February and March. On the home front, I am very pleased to accept the position of Coordinator of the Building Campaign, and I thank Paul Cohen and Walt Liess, as well as the entire Va'ad, for their confidence.

Before agreeing to serve as coordinator, I found myself re-examining my commitment to the building campaign. Many of us have been actively involved for many months, and most of us have pledged our hard-earned money to this campaign. Will it succeed? I found doubts and anxieties arising, and all the "reasons" why a lesbian and gay Congregation cannot have "a home of our own" during these very difficult economic times. Then I looked at what we have going for us: I thought of a very active group of volunteers, a Congregation that has already raised \$200,000 for this effort, a need for a central location from which to offer the Congregation's programs and services, and a great deal of interest and support coming from the general public in small and important ways.

The "positives" won out for me: I am convinced that with our hard work, careful planning and good ideas we will be able to have our building.

During the next several weeks we will be mapping out the "strategy" for the expansion of the campaign. We are exploring foundation, corporate and individual "major gift" contributions. We will be working closely with the Public Relations Committee to announce the campaign in more and more media sources. We will plan events and activities to seek the support and money of the general San Francisco community, and specifically lesbian, gay, historic-interest, and Jewish groups and individuals.

If you would like to be involved in the efforts, please contact me by note or by phone (648-5556). —Mark Feldman

Picnic!

Details will be forthcoming in the May newsletter, but you may want to pencil in the annual Sha'ar Zahav picnic on your calendar for June 6. Scheduled for Angel Island, the day promises to be one of enjoyment, good food and good times all. Don't miss it!

Candidates Sought for Upcoming Elections

Everyone who has ever had a good (or even great) idea about what our Congregation should/could/might be or do may now consider herself/himself a possible candidate for the upcoming elections. Now is the chance!

The Elections Committee has formed and is seeking the help of all members in the most important task of selecting able persons for the challenge of leadership.

At the May 16 Congregational meeting, we will elect a president, a vice president, a treasurer and a recorder and five Va'ad members. All members in good standing are eligible to run.

We invite all interested members who can devote time and energy to leadership tasks to contact the Elections Committee *immediately*. We will schedule meetings with all who want to stand for election. And, we also invite you to propose the names of members whom you believe would be able additions to our governing body.

As our Congregation grows and flourishes, the challenges and rewards become ever greater. All of us must work together to forge, from a myriad of diverse views, a congregation that is a focus for strength, love, justice and Yiddishkeit.

If you can help . . . and help now . . . please call me at 751-1576. —Leila Raim, Chair, Elections Committee

A reminder to those who may receive this newsletter by March 31: Thursday, April 1 is the deadline for reservations for our Thursday, April 8 Congregational Seder on the second night of Passover.

The Seder will begin at 6:00 p.m. at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn, Van Ness and Pine Streets, San Francisco. Ticket prices are \$21 for members, \$25 for non-members and \$15 for children. Vegetarian and kosher-style meals are available, as well as meals prepared under rabbinic supervision at the Kosher Nutrition Project.

If you're reading this before the April 1 deadline, and haven't made your reservation yet, *do so now!* Send your check (or VISA/MasterCard authorization information) along with your name, address, and telephone number and specifics on reservations (how many, what kind of meals, etc.) to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, P.O. Box 5640, San Francisco, CA 94101.

President's Column

The cancellation of the showing of the film "The Olympiad" by the Gay Olympics Committee was the correct and necessary decision. I am proud that we participated in bringing to the attention of Dr. Waddell and the committee our deep concerns for the use of this film in connection with a fundraiser for a gay cause which we wholeheartedly support — The Gay Olympics, to be held in San Francisco this summer.

Our protest effort was part of a campaign of a number of gay and non-gay Jewish and non-Jewish groups which were offended by the planned benefit. The Lesbian and Gay Jewish Activists took a leading role in galvanizing support in the community. Our conversations and meetings with this group, whose membership includes many of our own members, were constructive and positive. Our separate identities and concerns were accepted and we worked to find our points of common agreement. I anticipate many occasions in the future in which we will be working together.

There is a postscript: Calls to the synagogue office and swastika-marked postcards have been received at our home. We were quite disturbed to receive them and quietly reviewed our public position. We accepted with some regret, that there were costs involved in standing up for what we believe.

As Jews we acknowledge that we were not the only group to suffer during the Holocaust which also enveloped political dissidents, other religious minorities, gypsies and gay people. I am proud that it has been our role to prevent the world from forgetting the genocide which murdered millions of men, women and children. For us, these events are not history alone; the anti-semitism marked by synagogue defiling and cemetery desecration continues here and abroad. We cannot allow ourselves to be silenced by critics who minimize the nature of current incidents. We have no reason to apologize for our human rights stand as Jews and lesbians and gays. Oppression, in whatever form and from whatever source, must be resisted in the prophetic tradition of our people.

—Paul J. Cohen

Cooking Study Club to Form

Never let it be said that we don't know how to appreciate good things. With that spirit in mind, several of our members have expressed interest in forming one or more (depending on the number of people interested) groups to explore the many different kinds and methods of cooking in a variety of cultures. Sounds delicious? Contact Gordon O. at 621-8236.

The Jewish Gaily Forward is the newsletter, published 12 times annually, of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, P.O. Box 5640, San Francisco, California 94101, (415) 621-2871. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given; credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Larry Chandler, Howard (Chad) Cohen, Catherine G. Nelson (chair), Charles Norton and Rodger Pitcairn.

Distant Cities Outreach Program

On Friday evening March 12th, we reached out to the gay and lesbian Jews of the North Bay who are interested in participating in our congregation and community. Walter Leis provided the setting and Oneg at his Russian River home. The planning and publicity effort by Dan Serbins and Isabel Auerbach, with our outreach co-ordinator, Shelley Fernandez, brought twenty-one local residents from the Santa Rosa-Guerneville-Cotati area.

The worship service was conducted by Rabbi Bennett, with musical accompaniment by Richard Look. Also participating were our members Garry Koenigsberg and Marilyn Miller. At the *Oneg Shabbat* following the service programming possibilities for the North Bay lesbian and gay Jewish community were discussed in a spirit of enthusiasm and interest. Our next outreach program in Sacramento takes place after newsletter publication for this month and a full report will be in our next issue.

Gift Opportunities Expand

In past issues of the *Forward*, we have encouraged our members and friends to consider a contribution to the Congregation as a way of, for example, saying "Happy Birthday" or "Happy Anniversary" to loved ones. You can still do that, of course, in honor or in memory of anyone or for any occasion.

But have you considered some other opportunities, such as the fact that it's Tuesday, or in honor of your winning a dispute with your building owner at the Rent Control Board, or commemorating the occasion of your *finally* clearing all those stacks of papers off your desk? The possibilities are endless and boggle the mind.

Whatever occasion *you* may have in mind, though, contact Ernie Weinstein at 566-1985 for details. And remember that our beautifully-designed gift card is available in two versions: with or without the lambda in our logo.

Va'ad Report

The plight of Ethiopian Jews will be a focus of this year's Passover Seder, according to a decision made by the Va'ad at its March meeting. The Congregation's board voted to participate in the "Chai" campaign sponsored by the American Association for Ethiopian Jews, in which Sha'ar Zahav will seek to raise \$3,000 (the cost of rescuing one Ethiopian Jew).

Two committees with business affecting the May 16 Congregational meeting — By Laws Review and Elections — presented reports. The Va'ad voted to accept and bring before the entire Congregation for approval several By Laws revisions, while the Elections Committee described its plans for coordinating the process of Va'ad and officer elections for the 1982-83 term.

A proposal by Rabbi Allen B. Bennett to participate in a Scholar-in-Residence weekend, sponsored by Hebrew Union College, was enthusiastically approved. The program will bring to Sha'ar Zahav an annual opportunity for intensive study with a member of the HUC faculty. Rabbi Bennett's father, Irving Bennett, has generously endowed in perpetuity Sha'ar Zahav's participation in this program in memory of his wife, Cyril Bennett.

From Where I Stand

Passover is the quintessential Jewish liberation experience. Each year, as we gather for Seder, we retell the story of the Exodus from Egypt, from the servitude we had endured for centuries. The Exodus was the paradigmatic liberation experience for Jews for all time.

In our community today, we are especially sensitive to the ideas the themes of liberation which touch our lives. So the story of Passover has even more meaning for us than it might have for many others. If we compare the idea of "coming out" to that of the coming forth from Egypt, we can see some fascinating parallels. Being enslaved physically can be compared to a kind of mental bondage which we go through when we must hide who we are for the sake of jobs or family. Being shackled to the sort of duplicitous life which many of us have had to live is comparable to the long years of suffering which our ancestors endured. And the wanderings in the desert can certainly be compared to our own searchings for wholeness and a positive identity. The entrance into the Promised Land, the land of true freedom, can be compared to our own acceptance of ourselves as whole human beings, usually achieved after a long and arduous process of self-examination and risk-taking. The salt water, representing the tears of the Hebrew slaves, is no different from our own tears. The bitterness we experience in our own lives when others deny us our rights. Even the matzah, symbolizing the hasty departure from Egypt, reminds us that we sometimes have to move so fast to keep from being discovered for our true selves that we barely have time to eat at all! Passover is certainly a festival which speaks to our very souls today. May we celebrate it together in joy. "This year we are all slaves; next year may we all be free!" *Chag sameach!* —*Rabbi Allen B. Bennett*

"Fair" Weather is Here

The Congregation participated in the Seventh Annual "Day in the Park for Women's Rights" on Saturday, March 6th. Sponsored by Bay Area chapters of the National Organization for Women, the event gave us an opportunity to distribute literature about the Congregation, to sign people up on the mailing list and to answer questions about who we are and what we do. Thanks to Membership Co-Chair Mike Rankin and to Mark Drusin, Richard Look, Cathy Nelson, Cheryl Orvis and Shelley Spiro for their efforts.

As our weather improves and the many Bay Area street fairs blossom, look for the Congregation's booth, or better yet, volunteer to help with these important outreach efforts. The *Forward* will publish information as it becomes available, but plans now call for our participation in the Israel Independence Day Celebration at Stern Grove on Sunday, May 2, East Bay Gay and Lesbian Day and San Francisco's Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day in June, and later, the Castro Street, Union Street, and Haight Street Fairs and others, giving all of us opportunities to meet new people and enjoy some sun and fresh air at the same time. Plan to be there!

Interested in UAHC?

Now that Sha'ar Zahav is a member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, we have the opportunity to participate in conferences in a number of areas — programs, ritual, education, social action, outreach, administration, finance, you name it. If you're interested in participating in Bay Area workshops, please contact the Congregation's office, 628-2871.

Women's Havurah Next Event!

Get out your dancing shoes, sisters, and get ready for an afternoon of merriment at the Women's Havurah's Sunday, April 18 FOLKDANCING at 3:00 p.m. at the San Francisco Jewish Community Center, 3200 California Street.

Nancy Meyer, who enriches our Shabbat celebrations by teaching folkdancing about once a month, and Sally Goldin, who taught Nancy folkdancing, promise that they can help even those of us with terminal clumsiness learn to enjoy ourselves and actually DANCE. Those of us who already know folkdancing can improve our techniques as everyone shares in the fun.

Admission is \$2, payable at the door or by returning this form with your check. Mark the envelope "Women's Havurah" and mail to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, P.O. Box 5640, San Francisco, CA 94101.

YES! I/we will be at the April 18 Women's Havurah Folkdancing program. There will be _____ of us.
Enclosed is a check for \$ _____.

Name _____

Address _____

City / ZIP _____ Phone _____

Ethiopian Jews — Social Action Priority

As outlined in the Va'ad Report, our Congregation is responding to the crisis faced by Ethiopian Jews in two ways recommended by our Social Action Committee.

First, we have committed ourselves to raising \$3,000, the approximate cost of getting one sister or brother out of Ethiopia and to Israel. The American Association for Ethiopian Jews has launched its "Chai is \$3,000" campaign, and congregations throughout this country are participating.

Second, a letter-writing campaign will be initiated at our Congregational Seder. Members and friends will write to Israeli government officials and to the Jewish Agency on behalf of this beleaguered community, expressing our support for increased efforts on their behalf. As we celebrate our own freedom, we will begin the task of helping others realize theirs.

If you would like to join the Social Action Committee and become more involved in this effort, contact Bruce Katz at 929-8479.

East Bay Lunch Set

The East Bay Connoisseurs of Fine Luncheons, and informal group of Sha'ar Zahavniks who live, work or just happen to be in the East Bay, will gather for another of their famous, fabulous sessions on Thursday, April 29 at 12 noon in the Wine Garden of the Waterfront Cafe, 30 Jack London Square, Oakland. Sit outside and enjoy the beauty of the Bay. Entrees are \$3 to \$5; the company is beyond description.

On Being a Jewish Lesbian . . .

What does it mean? What feelings are evoked? Do we as lesbian Jewish women experience pain . . . a sense of triumph, rebellion, anxiety about the claustrophobic pressure of our closets?

The questions stir feelings of many lesbians, those who have pulled away from the clinging tendrils of their families, but have the extra dimension — the Jewish faith and tradition — enfolding them as well.

A lively discussion about these issues helped strengthen our bonds of sisterhood at Noble Pies, a Noe Valley eatery, at the February Women's Havurah meeting. Thirty women talked in a spirited, reflective manner, punctuated by lovely bits of ironic humor. Despite a few passionate statements (or perhaps because of them) the women sitting in four separate groups pulled together some cogent statements reflecting their faith, their experiences, their lifestyles and their expectations.

The discussion statement begins with, "I celebrate my love for women. I celebrate my being a part of the Jewish people . . ." With this premise, the following statements emerged:

Most of us, sometime during our lives, have felt the brunt of family and/or social disapproval to our lifestyle. Added to this is the underground river of anti-semitism, which erupts here and there in gusts of poisoned spray. What to do? Live with it? Ignore it? No, solutions do not lie in that direction. We must be realistic, understand clearly that anti-semitism exists; it must be reckoned with and fought against.

How to deal with our families? Some women have found it very difficult to "come out". But if one does not, it is helpful to know that many families "know" already, and now and then there is a surge of relief for the woman and her family to openly talk about a relationship or a lifestyle that is evident to everyone.

Several women remembered unhappy confrontations with angry people who exploited personal or business incidents by repeating age old accusations about Jews. And the question hovered . . . how many "good Christians . . ." and how many "decent people" pretended not to know about the sufferings and indignities heaped upon their Jewish friends?

As lesbian Jews we can be more passionate about ourselves and our commitments, turn to each other for community and for warmth and support.

Being Jewish and being lesbian has a special meaning for us, we are developing a sense of community and stability for ourselves and for our sisters.

In summary, do not allow fear and guilt, and the prejudice of bigots, to tear at the hems of your jeans. —H.H.

Mazel Tov!

. . . to Dubi Barcan and Phil W., on the sanctification of their union on February 14, by Rabbi Allen B. Bennett.

. . . to Aaron Isaac Steiner, on his March 12 exhibit of recent paintings, entitled "Visions of Israel," at Congregation Beth Israel in Monterey.

. . . to Catherine G. Nelson, on her formal welcome into Judaism on February 12.

. . . to Congregation Beth Simchat Torah, our sibling congregation in New York, on their ninth anniversary celebration.

. . . to Lou Greene, reigning champion, East Bay Chili Chef.

Health Fair '82 Slated For 75 Sites April 17 to 25

More than 75 Health Fairs will open their doors to the public the week of April 17-25 in ten Bay Area counties. Free health screenings, education, counseling and referrals will be provided to participants 18 years of age and older.

Each Health Fair '82 site will provide free screenings for vision, anemia, blood pressure, height and weight. Many sites will also screen for hearing, glaucoma, oral cancer and podiatric problems. Some will provide breast exams and free pap smears. An optional blood chemistry work-up, which screens for diabetes, kidney and liver disease, gout, cholesterol, triglycerides, iron and more, will be offered for a nominal fee of \$8.

The Bay Area project is part of a national Health Fair campaign encompassing 60 major metropolitan areas this year. More information on the Health Fair may be obtained by calling the Health Fair office at (415) 861-5222. After March 29, specific site information will be available via a toll-free Health Fair hot line: (800) 652-1279.

Jewish Feminist Conference Planned

Bay Area Jewish feminists are hard at work on the final planning of a conference to be held in San Francisco on Memorial Day weekend, May 29 through May 31. This Conference is by and for Jewish lesbian-feminists and Jewish feminists, and will cover many issues of interest to a broad range of Jewish feminists. A portion of the conference will be open to non-Jewish women. More than eight hundred women are expected to attend.

Women interested in working on conference plans, on committees or in submitting proposals for workshops are encouraged to get involved by contacting the organizers at (415) 540-0671 ext. 349 or 1442A Walnut Suite 349, Berkeley, CA, 94709. Of particular need at this time are women with skills and/or willingness to learn coordination of such areas as security, childcare, disability, food service, etc.

To find out the dates, times, and places of meetings please contact Sara at 654-7015 or Leslie at 658-0491, or check in the *Plexus* calendar.

The conference and all general meetings are held in wheelchair accessible locations. Sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired, as well as childcare, are available upon reservation. (TTY: 821-1349)



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It's Time for Our Own Exodus

It has been over 3,300 years since we Hebrews took flight from our bondage in the Land of the Pharohs. And now, we Jews are *still* struggling to realize that perennial goal of religious liberation. Though the injustices that cause our continuous struggle evolve as time does, the themes remain the same. We must remember, though, that the annals of history are the recorded paths of alternating periods of oppression and liberation for not only the Hebrews, but for all peoples. Yet for many, that history is not as long as ours, for some there is no written history, and for still others, oppression has so tragically caused them to desist. We strugglers for liberty are myriad in kind and numbers. We are *campesinos* in El Salvador, Falashim in Ethiopia, and Native Americans in the U.S., just to name a few.

But there is one uncounted population whose toll of oppression has hung over them for millenia. These are lesbians and gay men — *us*. We lesbians and gays are a part of every people on Earth. And the one part of our oppression which we bear in unity is that our own peoples, even our parents and siblings, oppress us for being who we are.

But even our mightiest oppressors, as they were in the days of the Hebrew slavery in Egypt, are ourselves — how we perceive our gay brothers and lesbian sisters and ourselves. This comes about because our homosexuality unfolds as part of our natures instead of being the result of enculturation. In other words, we don't grow up together, like Falashim or Iroquois people grow up together. Instead, we grow up among our oppressors; we, like Moses, are reared by our oppressors, and we grow up learning to oppress ourselves. As our gayness unfolds, and if we come out, we make an exodus from their ways of life, which are shackles on our ways of life, and find *our* people, who cross the cultures of Earth.

It is when we find our gay brothers and lesbian sisters that we encounter the rustiest and most strangulating shackles that for some, remain bound tight for life. These shackles surface when we condemn "camp" and when we denounce men dressed in drag. They surface when we call someone or some place "too gay" and when we won't discuss our homosexuality with someone we've come out to. They surface when we feel religion and homosexuality don't mix and when we make sure none of our women friends are too masculine or our men friends too effeminate. Our greatest exodus is one we make from our *own* oppression. And the paths to liberation from it take more than the parting of the Red Sea.

—Howard (Chad) Cohen

An Epilogue

Since I can't very well relax my own newsletter copy deadline, and since mid-February was pretty hectic anyway, the March issue of the *Forward* did not contain the article I had wanted to write about my formal "welcome to Judaism" service on Friday, February 12. But it is here now.

Those who were present heard me talk in my sermon about my four years of study and my increasingly active participation in synagogue and Jewish community life, first in Chicago and then here. Choosing Judaism, though, is not just something that former non-Jews do after appropriate reflection, study and involvement. It is something that each of us, whether we are Jews by choice or by chance, does throughout our lives. We re-affirm who we are and who we are becoming, perhaps even daily, as we re-affirm our commitment to building a strong community where we can give expression to our fundamental values: as lesbians, as gay men, as Jews whose heritage is good and precious and offers much to us.

My formal conversion service, which was the first such public service in Northern California, was a truly wonderful moment for all of us, for it gave me, and you, my friends, an opportunity to pause for a few moments and think about who and where we are, and where we are headed.

For me, it was a very special occasion in so very many ways, too many to enumerate here.

Two of those "ways", however, should be mentioned. One is the Congregation's contribution, in honor of my choosing Judaism, to the American Association for Ethiopian Jews, and for which I thank you.

The other is the participation of those present in what I understand was a real three handkerchief service. (I was too busy being nervous, and yet somehow calm at the same time, about the Torah blessings and my sermon to count Kleenexes.) The very existence of this congregation has enabled me to "try on" Judaism for size — and it fits so very well — and I want you to know that I'm glad I changed my original decision to have a very private service. We *all* deserved that joyous occasion!

—Catherine G. Nelson



Politics — Not As Usual

On Saturday night, February 20, over 400 people gathered to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club and to honor its founder, Jim Foster. Mayor Dianne Feinstein announced that this was the largest gathering of politicians in Northern California in years.

While clearly a Democratic evening, the real cause for celebration was the miraculous growth of lesbian and gay influence in U.S. politics in just ten years. We *are* making a difference. There remains, though, a lot of work ahead of us before we gain recognition of our full civil and human rights.

On that Saturday night we listened to speaker after speaker blast the would-be Reagan Civil Rights Commission nominee, the Rev. Sam Hart of Philadelphia (the City of Brotherly Love, mind you). I have heard strong condemnation of his anti-gay, anti-women, anti-civil rights statements from Republicans as well. This week I was elated to hear Dan Rather, on the CBS Evening News, announce that the Rev. Hart withdrew his name from nomination due to "the strong pressure brought by feminist and homosexual groups". Later I heard that the Reverend's shaky finances made the Reagan Administration nervous. But make no mistake: Every politician is well aware of the pressure that women's groups and gay groups brought to bear. Of course the sad news is that someone like the Rev. Hart was nominated for this position in the first place.

Jim Foster, in an eloquent statement at the dinner, remarked that everyone in that room, including the Mayor, Rep. Phil Burton, Assemblymen Art Agnos and Leo McCarthy, Speaker Willie Brown, Controller Ken Cory, a dozen judges, and Mayor Bradley of Los Angeles, whether they were gay or not, "had a gay consciousness". Ted Kennedy, in a videotaped presentation, spoke of no civil rights for America until there were civil rights on Castro St. Democratic

Party Leader Lia Belli noted that the test would be to see if our friends put their money where their mouths are when push comes to shove this political year.

As we enter the 1982 political season, we are also entering a new phase of political development for our community locally and nationally. There are lesbians and gays, some of whom are still in the closet, running for varied offices. The Moral Majority has been licking its wounds lately but is far from dead. Its efforts in the 1982 election will be unprecedented and nasty. Political Action Committees will be more powerful than ever and will determine political stands and outcomes as never before (and the right-wing PACs very heavily outnumber the moderate and progressive PACs).

The message is clear: If we are to see political and social gains and not setbacks in the coming years, we are going to have to work for it. We are going to have to support candidates who support us: gay and non-gay, Republicans as well as Democrats, women and men. And support doesn't mean shaking your head in agreement as you read this. It means *money, time, and work*. That's how you win support from politicals — write checks, walk precincts, join political action clubs and organizations, write letters. If every Sha'ar Zahav member and supporter writes a \$25 check this political year, we will match the money raised for the Democratic Party by the Toklas dinner. If you think politics stinks, hold your nose as you write the check. Even if you don't have the money to support the party or candidate of your choice, volunteer time to help that group or individual. If you do not have a favorite candidate or group — get one. As individuals and as a Congregation, we can have impact if we are committed to contributing time, money and effort for candidates' campaigns and candidate nights.

1982 will be about *participation* — *do it!!!*

—Mark Feldman

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APRIL

ניסן אייר



				THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
				ח	ט	י Shabbat ha-Gadol
4	5	6	7 First Seder	8 Pesah Congregational Seder (see article)	9 Pesah	10 Shabbat Hol ha-Moed
יא	יב	יג	יד	טו	טז	יז
11 Hol ha-Moed Pesah Va'ad	12 Hol ha-Moed Pesah Newsletter Deadline 621-0628	13 Hol ha-Moed Pesah	14 Pesah Newsletter Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m. 621-0628	15 Pesah Fall of Massada (3833)	16	17
יח	יט	כ	כא	כב	כג	כד
18 Women's Havurah (see article)	19	20 Yom ha-Shoah Observance Temple Emau El	21 Social Program Committee Meeting 431-9721	22	23 Rosh Hodesh Iyyar	24 Rosh Hodesh Iyyar
כה	כו	כז	כח	כט	ל	א
25	26 Deadline for Baseball Reservations	27 Yom ha-Zikkaron	28 Yom ha-Atzma'ut	29 East Bay Lunch Group meets Waterfront Cafe, Oakland	30	
ב	ג	ד	ה	ו	ז	



Friday,
April 2
9 Nisan

Shabbat ha-Gadol
Torah Tzav: Leviticus 6:1-8:36
Haftarah: Malachi 3:4-24
Nina Wouk and Laurie Radovsky, Services
Shelley Abts Fernandez, Sermon

Friday,
April 9
16 Nisan

Hol ha-Moed Pesach
Torah: Exodus 33:12-34:26 and Numbers 28:19-25
Haftarah: Ezekiel 36:37-37:14
Garry Koenigsberg, Services
Mike Rankin, Sermon

Friday,
April 16
23 Nisan

Torah Shemini: Leviticus 9:1-11:47
Haftarah: II Samuel 6:1-7:17
Rabbi Allen B. Bennett, Services and Sermon
Yom ha-Shah observance

Friday,
April 23
30 Nisan

Torah Tazri'a-Metzora: Leviticus 12:1-15:33
Special Reading: Numbers 28:9-15
Haftarah: Isaiah 66:1-24
Rosh Chodesh Iyyar

Friday,
April 30
7 Iyyar

Torah Aharei Mot-Kedoshim:
Leviticus 16:1-20:27
Haftarah: Amos 9:7-15
Rabbi Allen B. Bennett, Services
Garry Koenigsberg, Torah Service and Sermon

Everyone is welcome to join us for Shabbat services each Friday at 8:15 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, 3200 California Street (at Presidio), San Francisco.



Play Ball!

On Thursday night, May 13, a very special evening has been arranged for us at the Oakland A's-New York Yankees game.

Preceding the 7:30 p.m. game at the Oakland Coliseum, appetizers will be served in the hospitality room. We will then take our box seats to enjoy the action.

This will be a very special evening; we have reserved 150 seats together for our members and friends for Lesbian and Gay Night at the Coliseum.

The cost is \$7.50 for members, \$8.50 for non-members and \$5.50 for children 14 years of age and under. Please return the form below with your check or charge card authorization to the Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, P.O. Box 5640, San Francisco, CA 94101 by Monday, April 26.

And remember, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) goes directly to the Coliseum! —Ron Lezel

Please send me tickets for the May 13 Oakland A's game as follows:

_____ members tickets @ \$7.50 each
 _____ guest tickets @ \$8.50 each
 _____ children (14 and under) @ \$5.50 each
 _____ Enclosed is my check for \$ _____.

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Magnes Museum Notes

Key moments in Israel's traumatic history of war and peace, captured by the lens of noted Israeli photojournalist Micha Bar-Am, will be exhibited at the Magnes Museum from April 26 through June 6. A preview reception will be held on Sunday, April 25, from 2 to 5 p.m.

Bar-Am, who covers the Middle East for the *New York Times*, magazines and world-wide news syndicates, is noted for his incisive combat-photographs which have captured emotional and explosive moments during three wars in Israel's history. Of equal impact are his studies of Sinai and Jerusalem, and the faces of Israel's people; his recording of the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, the Eichmann Trial, and the last days in the life of David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister. The Magnes exhibition will include approximately twenty-five black and white photographs selected from Bar-Am's images of Israel in both war and peace.

The community of German Jewish emigre artists in Palestine of the 1930s is the subject of a special evening program at the Magnes Museum on Tuesday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m. This program is presented in conjunction with the exhibition "Journey's End in Galilee: A Jakob Nussbaum Retrospective".

Hitler's rise to power in the 1930s caused a mass exodus of German Jewish artists and intellectuals. Many of them settled in Jerusalem, forming a lively circle which was instrumental in the reopening of the Bezalel Art Institute of Jerusalem. Artists such as Jakob Steinhardt, Mordecai Ardon, and Anna Tiko were leaders in the teaching and making of art in Jewish Palestine.

Sheila Braufman, guest lecturer, is an art historian with special interest in the Jewish visual heritage. She has lectured throughout the Bay Area on Jewish art history, speaking at Stanford University, the San Jose Museum of Art, and other organizations.

The public is invited to attend. Admission is \$2 for Museum members, \$3 for non-members.

Jakob Nussbaum (1873-1936), an artist active in the German Impressionist movement, will be recognized with his first American retrospective at the Magnes Museum from April 5 through June 6. A preview reception will be held on Sunday, April 5, 2 to 5 p.m.

Nussbaum was well known as a landscape and portrait painter in late nineteenth and early twentieth century Germany. His work is characterized by a rejection of the Academy art of the time and a return to the outdoors, to a simple portrayal of nature and people. This exhibition includes oils, watercolors, lithographs, etchings, and sketches, spanning Nussbaum's entire career. The works were selected from those in his children's possession in Israel, where the artist spent his last years, and are being given their premiere United States showing.

The Magnes Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday through Friday, and is free of charge. The gift shop is open during Museum hours. Docent tours are available Wednesdays and Sundays, by previous appointment. For further information call 849-2710.

The Magnes Museum is located at 2911 Russell St. in Berkeley. To reach the Museum, go one block north from Ashby and Pine, between College and Claremont.

Letters, We Get Letters . . .

I am extremely disappointed to read, in the March *Gaily Forward*, that the Va'ad has chosen to avoid taking a stand on the important issue of nuclear weapons by turning down the opportunity to be a co-sponsor of the conference "Choose Life: Jews and Nuclear Weapons". Does the decision that "we should not become embroiled in the political overtones involved" mean that you think we as gay Jews have no interest or stake in political issues, particularly the issue of nuclear war, which is so vital to all human beings?

If religious convictions are to have serious meaning, I believe they should lead us to act in loving and life-affirming ways in the larger community and the world. Co-sponsoring the February 28th conference would have been an excellent way to show that our congregation cares about the survival of our planet, and that we support the other Jewish groups that are exploring alternatives to violent means of solving world problems.

I would like to know more about what went into your decision. And I would like to know how other members feel about it.

Sincerely,
Janine B.

Last month's Va'ad Report was based on what was reported to me by several persons who were present, and who held differing views on the question. While my own religious and political convictions lead me to agree with Janine, I don't think we can automatically assume that a majority of our Va'ad members do not, in some sense, share these sensibilities. Another letter on the same subject gives us a different view of what went into the decision. —Ed.

Editor:

The Va'ad meeting summary in the last issue inaccurately reflected the reason for the defeat of the motion to co-sponsor the anti-nuclear workshop in Berkeley. Although I strongly supported the motion and was disappointed that it failed, my sense of the meeting is that most of the "no" votes were based on a general lack of information about the particular event (the motion to co-sponsor came up on rather a short notice) rather than on an unwillingness to take a position on a "political" issue. I continue to hope that the Congregation will join forces with all those who oppose the looming nuclear threat of planetary extinction.

Rob Montague, Past Co-Leader

I am writing to thank you and the membership of your congregation for your generosity and thoughtfulness in contributing the canned foods to our program.

The food will be distributed among our food group homes and will be much appreciated by both children and staff.

Sincerely,
Jack Maslow, Director
Homewood Terrace Residential Program
Jewish Family and Children's Services

At our Purim celebration, participants brought food to be distributed to those in need in fulfillment of our tradition of sh'lachmoness — the "sending of portions." We appreciate Mr. Maslow's kind words of thanks. —Ed.

Marilyn Miller

Life, Health Insurance...All types of I.R.A. plans...Protection of lovers, partners, family...Medical. Hospital and Disability Income...20 years experience...Life Member, Million Dollar Round Table. Call 472-4977 or see me after services.

Onegs

Our Friday night Onegs provide a wonderful social opportunity for our members, friends and guests. We welcome the peace of Shabbat and eagerly devour the refreshments so carefully provided.

The Oneg tradition is maintained by the participation of members who take pride in presenting an array of foods — sweets, veggies, cheeses, fruits. Being a part of the Oneg Committee offers a unique opportunity to nourish yourself spiritually as well as nutritionally.

A meeting of the newly reorganized Oneg Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m. at 326 Frederick Street, San Francisco. Please call Mark Drusin at 234-3575 (days) or 681-6605 (evenings) to tell him you want to help continue this most delicious tradition.

Thanks to Oneg sponsors during:

February

- 12 by Renee Hanover and Dillie Grunauer, in honor of Cathy Nelson.
- 19 by Dubi Barcan and Phil Walker, in honor of their union.
- 26 by Dr. A.G. Beauregard Lowell, IV

March

- 5 by Michael Lipson, in honor of his parents, leaders in the Atlanta Jewish Community.
- 12 by Paul Cohen and Allen Gold, for Paul's father's yahrzeit.
- 19 by Sean Reynolds and Cathy Nelson, in celebration of their eleventh anniversary.

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Treasurer's Report

It occurs to me that our intrepid treasurer spends far too much time walking around with knitted brows worrying about how to balance the budget. Not unlike a few other persons in America today! It is also true that not too many of our members and other recipients of the *Forward* have much of an idea of our financial condition. Through this medium I shall show some of the facts from our monthly statements, in simplified form. I hope that, through increased awareness, continued good things will happen for our congregation, and I will worry a little less!

Revenues for January

\$4,337.31

Expenses for January

\$4,193.75

Selected Expenses, July 1 to January 31

Rent	\$3,297.00
Advertising	\$1,477.10
<i>Forward</i>	\$2,375.93

—Irene Ogus, I.T.

Thank you to the following persons, whose kind contributions were received during January and February:

Allan Berenstein	Terri Cohn
Alan Rosenberg	S. Mitchell Savitsky
Bryan Taylor	Steven Elman
A. Meyer	Paul Glackman
Sean Reynolds	Lawrence Farber
William Brag	Harry Hanen
A. Taylor	Catherine G. Nelson

R. Lipshutz, in memory of Sophie Sagarsky, grandmother of Marc Lipshutz.

Ida Kuluk, in honor of son Evan Isaac, born December 23, 1981.

Happy Birthday!

4	Linda M.	14	Phil W.
6	Dave R.	19	Alita Rosenfeld
7	Glenn Friedman	20	Leonard Brill
7	Gordon O.	22	Kurt Stutzman
7	Pete Tannen	23	Ben Schatz
10	Stuart Kane	27	Ralph Greenburg
12	Lee Erwin	28	Harry Lutrin
13	David Moss	29	Shirley Liberman

Yahrzeits

1	(8 Nisan) Max Pechter, father of Bernard Pechter
1	Geraldine Minsky Rankin, mother of Mike Rankin
13	Wallace A. Waldorf, grandfather of David Brauer
12	(20 Nisan) Jose Ha'Cohen Chesir, grandfather of Daniel Chesir
17	Wally Rifkin, brother of Hy Rifkin
19	Nathan Curland, grandfather of Scott Chase
22	Zuelicka Turley, grandmother of David Ben-Jacob
23	(1 Iyar) Benjamin Auerbach, father of Isabel Auerbach
25	Irving Brill, father of Leonard Brill
27	(5 Iyar) Max Friedman, father of Glenn Friedman

Condolences

The Congregation expresses its condolences to Rabbi Allen B. Bennett on the loss of his mother, Cyril Bennett; to David Gellman on the loss of his grandmother, Huddle Schlitz; and to Laurie Radorsky, on the loss of her cousin, David Goldberg.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS	
<p>If you're moving, please allow six weeks for processing time.</p>	<p>Attach current address label here.</p>
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<p>Mail to:</p> <p>Sha'ar Zahav</p> <p>P.O. Box 5640</p> <p>S.F. CA 94101</p>	

